

CP – 2/25/24

Acts 20:7–16 - Faithfulness, Lucky's Fall, and Paul's Resolve

Sermon Outline

***Possible parallel to Jesus' journey to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51; Acts 20:22)

1. The Faithfulness of the Church at Troas (20:7)

- Faithful to gather
- To take the Lord's Supper
- To listen to teaching

***What else did they do? - fellowship; sing (Eph. 5, Col. 3); pray (Acts 2, 4)

2. The Normalcy of the Church at Troas (20:7–9)

- Meeting at night because they probably worked all day
- No campus or building, so they met at home.
- Dark, so they need lamps
- Window opened because no ventilation
- Met in upper room (third story)
- Long time of teaching and discussion
- Drowsiness and sleep
- The law of gravity
- Cause and effect; life and death

3. God's Power in the Church at Troas (20:9–12)

- Either the miracle of preventing death or resurrection from the dead
- The supernatural occurred in the midst of the normal!
- The miracle of interrupts the message but doesn't end it!
- What was more important to Paul? Miracles weren't enough! They needed the meat of the Word! Desire meat over miracles! The Word is the greatest miracle!

4. The Caution against Spiritual Drowsiness

- General caution in the Bible about falling asleep spiritually
 - Proverbs 6:9–11; 19:15; 20:13; 24:33; Matthew 13:24–25; 24:42; Mark 13:32–37; Luke 21:36; Romans 13:11; Ephesians 5:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:6–7
- Fell asleep in the midst of light - lamps and apostolic preaching
- Some of us become spiritual lethargic because we sit in light and do nothing with truth and then become numb to it!
- These Christians were willing to sit all and night and listen. They were hungry, expectant, and humble. They wanted to be taught and knew they needed the Word of God! They knew their past & God's deliverance of them from idolatry.

- Perhaps some here are spiritual dead because you haven't been delivered from your American idols!
- He was overcome with sleep. Sleep won out over him. Perhaps some of you didn't mean to become lethargic. You fought temptation at first then gave in; now you're numb to how cold you've become! Wake up! Wake up!

5. Paul presses on to the next place! (20:13–16)

- Paul wasn't content with what just happened - He did not spiritually coast!
- Paul went by foot from Troas to Assos (without any sleep)
 - Perhaps to check on Eutychus the following morning
 - Perhaps to converse more with Troas believers on the way
 - Perhaps to be by himself and prepare for the journey ahead
- He did not want to go to Ephesus to get to Jerusalem by Pentecost, taking the offering from Gentile congregations to the Jerusalem church.
 - Spiritual reason: The great lesson of Pentecost, the ingathering!
 - Practical: He wanted to deliver the offering on a meaningful day

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you in the Bible passage and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. What was the church at Troas faithful to do? What do see local churches in Acts doing? Why is faithfulness so important in the life of the church and every believer?
3. What was normal about the church gathering in Acts 20:7–9? What resonates with you about how Christians are spiritually alive but live in a physical world? Discuss.
4. Discuss Eutychus' ("Lucky"), sleep, fall, and resurrection. What stood out to you about this part of the passage?
5. Why did Paul leave the next day, and why possibly did he not go by ship? What is the danger of spiritual drowsiness or spiritual "coasting?" What was Paul firmly resolved to, and what often keeps us from pressing on? Discuss as a group. Pray that we would continually submit to His will and continue on in His calling for us.